

## THE POST OFFICES OF JESSAMINE COUNTY, KENTUCKY

Jessamine County's 174 square miles are mostly in Kentucky's Inner Bluegrass region, just south of Lexington-Fayette County. They are drained by branches of the Kentucky River and its main stream which serves as Jessamine's southern boundary with Mercer, Garrard, and Madison Counties. Woodford County borders Jessamine on the west. Nicholasville, the county's centrally located seat and largest town, is twelve miles south of downtown Lexington. Some 30,500 residents of Jessamine County were counted in its 1990 Census.

Jessamine [djehs/mən] was probably first settled in the spring of 1779. One of the twelve counties created by the Kentucky Legislature in December 1798 (the twenty seventh in order of formation), it was taken in whole from Fayette County and assumed its present boundaries at its establishment. It is known to have been named by a co-founder, Col. John Price, for one of its principal streams, the eighteen mile long Meandering Jessamine Creek which joins the Kentucky River some three miles south of Wilmore.

The naming of the creek, however, was long in dispute. We can probably accept as most likely the account of its having been named in 1774 by its Scottish-born discoverer-surveyor James Douglas (Douglass) for his only child, a daughter Janett whom he called Jessamine or Jessie, who was then living in Virginia. The local legends that she had been brutally murdered and scalped by Indians while sitting on the stream's banks or that she had drowned herself in the creek after a lover's quarrel are pure fabrications. She is known to have married one Thomas Donnelly and lived in Lexington till her death from natural causes.

A third tradition, suggested by Col. Price, that Douglas or another early explorer had named the stream for the many jasmine or jessamine flowers along its banks has also been questioned though there may be some truth to it. Botanists assure us that such flowers did not really bloom in profusion this far north. But that such flowers grew at all, if such were the case, may have been sufficient to suggest this as the name's source since, in Kentucky, names were often given to commemorate an unusual event or condition. Moreover, Col. Price, in a letter sent to a fellow legislator in 1799, stated that he had named the county for the flower as well as the stream.

From verified historic documents we have learned that in July 1774 Douglas headed a group of surveyors assigned to locate land for French and Indian War service grants. Arriving in what is now the northwest section of the county, his party camped by a particularly attractive spring which, along with the stream that derived from it, he identified in survey reports and later land records as Jessamine. In 1780 he claimed some 1400 acres around the spring which was heired by his daughter in 1806 and later deeded by her to her own children. The spring has since been known as Cogar's Spring.

Other Jessamine county streams of historic significance are the Big and Little Hickman Creeks which drain most of the eastern part of the county and Sinking Creek and the East Fork of Clear Creek in the west.

The first of Jessamine's twenty six post offices has served its county seat since the earliest years of the nineteenth century. Nicholasville, now a third class industrial city of some 13,600 residents, was established and laid off as the seat in the late summer of 1798 by the Rev. John Metcalfe. It was named by him for his friend, Col. George Nicholas

(1754-1799), a Virginia-born lawyer and Revolutionary War veteran, who was Kentucky's first Attorney General and the key framer of its first Constitution.<sup>1</sup> The site, at the junction of several pioneer roads and in the vicinity of four large perpetual springs, attracted another Virginia-born Revolutionary War veteran, Major Benjamin Netherland who, in 1793, built his log home there and opened what he called Mingo Tavern. In September 1801 he was appointed the first postmaster for the new community, though, curiously, postal records show that the post office was not officially established till January 14, 1806. The city was chartered by the Kentucky Legislature in 1812.

Jessamine's second post office continues to serve the village of Keene, centering at the junction of Ky. 169 and 1267, 7½ miles northwest of downtown Nicholasville. The community which grew up around a horse-powered mill built by Manoah Singleton in 1794, was laid out as a town in 1813 and called North Liberty. This name was given to its post office when it was established in early 1830. But in mid July of that year, it was renamed Keene presumably for the New Hampshire hometown of Ephraim Carter, its first postmaster, and/or Harvey Huggins, the local storekeeper. A local Mr. Keene and a Keene Singleton have also been suggested as possible name sources but no contemporary records can confirm this. As Keene the town was incorporated in 1844. The medicinal qualities of three local sulphur springs led to the development in the early 1840s of a popular and flourishing antebellum summer resort. Shortly after the war, though, the community's white families began to move away and their homes were sold to ex slaves whose descendants now make up most of the town's population. The old Keene Springs Hotel still stands across the road from the local post office and store.

At a natural ford in a break in the Kentucky River palisades, just below the mouth of Hickman Creek, and 8½ miles south of Nicholasville, was an antebellum landing and post office called Fitchport. The post office, on the Garrard County side of the river, was established in February 1839 by Philonzo L. Fitch and operated till October 1842. It reopened in December of the following year on the Jessamine County side as Boon's Knob (sic) referring to the hill that Daniel Boone, in his pre-Boonesborough days, had used to mark his favorite river crossing. After this office closed in 1849 the community it served continued as Fitchport for the next two decades.

The next post office to serve this vicinity was established on October 17, 1853 as Jessamine somewhere on the north side of the river. William T. King was postmaster. In 1861, still as Jessamine, it was moved across the river to Garrard County. In August 1863 it returned to Jessamine County as Camp Nelson to serve the Union Army's recruiting and training center that had been established earlier that year on the hill overlooking the river and named for the late Gen. William Nelson. Though the camp disbanded at the end of the war, the community on the river which, by now, was locally and variously known as Crow's Port, Hickman Bridge, and Mouth of Hickman continued to be served by the Camp Nelson post office as was the community called Ariel (later Hall) that had been established on the hill west of the camp site for the families of Negro trainees.

The intermittent operation of the Camp Nelson post office on both sides of the river ended in May 1920 with the office then located in a Garrard County store by the old US 27 bridge. The area on both sides of the river was recently developed as a tourist attraction with stores,

a motel, and crafts and specialty shops, and was served by the Camp Nelson CPO in Garrard County from 1975 to 1979. About 1½ miles north of the river, between US 27 and Hickman Creek, is the Camp Nelson National Cemetery with the graves of over 5000 Union dead.

A post office called Mt. Freedom for the local Baptist church operated intermittently from June 12, 1844 through January 1870 at a point on the present Ky 29, midway between High Bridge and Wilmore, and eight miles southwest of Nicholasville. In April 1898 it was re-established by Jeremiah Rudicill less than half a mile north. Unable to call it Mt. Freedom he settled for Rudicill. But the office closed after only six months. The old Mt. Freedom Church was organized in September 1832 but moved to Wilmore in 1900, retaining its name.

One of the county's two post offices named for local mills was Potts Mills. It was established on April 28, 1848 by William N. Potts who had earlier built his saw and grist mills where the Sugar Creek Road crosses Hickman Creek, about a mile east of the Camp Nelson National Cemetery. The mills, which survived the post office closing in June 1862, were later called Watts Mills. As the Sagaser Mill, the grist mill operated till it was destroyed by a flood in 1932.

The inexplicably named Pekin post office was established by David P. Watson on November 30, 1848 at or about the junction of the present US 68 and Ky 33, seven miles wsw of Nicholasville. Its intermittent operation ended for good in December 1876.

Valentine Duncan operated the Carver's Ferry post office from December 19, 1851 to April 1854 at the ferry landing on the Kentucky River, about two air miles east of Mt. Lebanon. Toward the end of the nineteenth century the ferry was still in operation as Boone Ferry.

The nineteenth century village of Sulphur Well, now but a hamlet on Ky 39, four miles sse of downtown Nicholasville, was settled early by the Baptist preacher, John Walters. Sometime before 1850 it was named for a large well of black sulphur water that accidentally had been discovered by someone digging for a drinking supply. William W. Newland established the Sulphur Well post office on April 7, 1852. This closed in November 1869 but was re-established on June 15, 1881 as Ambrose when Ambrose Cobb learned that his preferred name, Wolfton was unacceptable and Sulphur Well had recently been given to another post office in Metcalfe County. Ambrose closed in February 1904 and its name is now all but forgotten.

Thomas T. Cogar operated a store and steamboat landing on the Kentucky River, half a mile from the Woodford County line. From 1845 to 1871 he also ran a ferry across the river to Mercer County.<sup>2</sup> His Cogar's Landing post office served these and other businesses and the Mercer County community of Brooklyn from May 3, 1854 to June 1861. In 1871 Cogar's Ferry was replaced by a 546 foot iron bridge called the Brooklyn Bridge which, like the community, was named for a legendary pioneer Col. Brook. Nothing remains on either side of the river, but US 68 traffic still crosses the Kentucky over a rebuilt (in 1954) Brooklyn Bridge, nine miles west of Nicholasville.<sup>3</sup>

The post office of Hanly served a rural settlement on the present US 27, 3¼ miles south of downtown Nicholasville, from March 9, 1858 to November 1917. The first postmaster, William M. Phillips named it for Major John H. Hanly, an Irish immigrant who had acquired extensive land holdings in the southern half of the county by the 1850s. Some in the

county insist the man's name was originally spelled Hanley, but the community and its post office were identified as Hanly on nineteenth century maps and other documents. And the man's name was spelled Hanly in the Censuses and tax records.

Two post offices served the neighborhood now known as Little Hickman centering on the creek of that name. This creek and nearby (Big) Hickman Creek were probably not named for the Rev. William Hickman (1747-1830), the Virginia-born Baptist minister who preached the first known sermon in the Bluegrass and later helped to establish many area churches. According to several pioneer depositions, both creeks had this name by the summer of 1775, while Rev. Hickman did not make his first visit to Kentucky until the following spring. Perhaps the streams were named for a James Hickman who had acquired large Kentucky holdings in the early 1770s but of whom nothing else is known.

Some three miles up the creek (and ten miles south of Nicholasville) was the post office of Little Hickman which operated from February 15, 1867 through June 1917. About 1½ miles northeast, at the head of the creek, in the vicinity of the active Little Hickman Church and the recently closed Little Hickman School, was the post office of Pink. It was established by Houston Scott on May 14, 1887 and named for storekeeper and sometime postmaster John Pink Overstreet (1835-1910). It closed in February 1904. The Little Hickman name now identifies the area around both post office sites. Before the Pink post office was established, its immediate vicinity was called Deans (probably for Harrison Dean, a local landowner) and may also have been known as Pluckemine [pluhk/ə/mən] for the Plegumine (or Plaquemine) voting district in which it was located.<sup>4</sup>

The family of pioneer surveyor John L. Spears who had settled on Marble Creek in the 1790s gave its name to the nearby (Fayette) County line community of Spearsville. This community long "claimed" by both counties centers at the junction of the present Ky 1974 (Tates Creek Road) and Ky 169, fourteen miles south of the Fayette County Court House and 8½ miles east of downtown Nicholasville. The community's name was shortened to Spears with the establishment, on August 30, 1867, of its post office on the Jessamine County side. Though for most of its existence the office remained in that county, when it closed in March 1915 its papers were sent to the Lexington post office. The largely residential community continues to be mostly in Jessamine County.

On the Kentucky River, just below the mouth of Dicks (Dix) River, where John Curd once ran a ferry between Jessamine and Mercer Counties, the Lexington and Danville Railroad decided to build a bridge. John A. Roebling, of later Brooklyn Bridge fame, was asked to design it, and by 1858 two stone towers on the north (or Jessamine County) side had been completed. But economic hard times and the Civil War prevented the completion of the bridge itself. The towers remained as landmarks overlooking the river. The Cincinnati-based Queen and Crescent (now Southern) Railroad finished the job in February 1877--the first cantilevered bridge on the continent and the highest railroad bridge (308 feet) over a navigable stream in the United States. Until the bridge's dedication when it became known officially as High Bridge, it had been referred to simply as the Kentucky River Bridge.

The new local railroad station on the Jessamine side was called The Towers for the twin structures that were never actually incorporated into the new bridge's design. On June 27, 1877 James M. Dorman established the North Tower post office which he renamed High Bridge ten years later to



conform to the name of the station and the village that had grown up around it. The towers continued as landmarks till 1929 when they were removed to make way for a doubling of the railroad trackage. After several local site changes, the High Bridge post office closed in March 1976. The area adjacent to the bridge, still in use by the Southern Railway, was long<sup>a</sup>/popular site for social gatherings, musicales, and dances.

Wilmore, a fourth class city of some 4,200 residents, six miles wsw of downtown Nicholasville, has the county's third active post office. In 1876 the Cincinnati-Southern Railroad acquired from John D. Scott some land for its right-of-way and depot at this site and established Scott's Station. On September 17 of the following year a post office that would have been named for postmaster-designate Jerome A. Sparks was opened as Wilmore, honoring John R. Wilmore, another local landowner. The community and station soon adopted this name as well. The town, incorporated in 1918, is said to have owed its growth and development to local Asbury College, a 1200 student Methodist Church sponsored liberal arts school and seminary founded by the Rev. John Wesley Hughes in 1890 as Kentucky Holiness College and later renamed for Bishop Francis Asbury.

Another station on what became the Cincinnati-Southern was Providence, midway between Lexington and Nicholasville. This had been established before 1861 and likely was named for the nearby Providence Reformed Church. Shortly after the Civil War, it was acquired by Massie Bryan, the owner of a local granary, and became known as Bryan Station. Here may have been the shortlived (if it lived at all) Marris post office which John Marris officially established on June 30, 1881. However, only eleven days later Bryan himself established a post office he named Windom when his preferred name, Bryan, (for the station) was unacceptable. By 1890 the station had become known

as Brannon and the office assumed this name in October. It operated till July 1913. Neither Windom nor Brannon have been explained. (Could Windom have been named for Pres. Garfield's Treasury Secretary, William Windom?)

The next post office to serve a Cincinnati-Southern station was another Jessamine, already the name of / local station where the present Jessamine Station Road crosses the tracks,  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles west of Nicholasville. Crow, for an area family, was the preferred name, but the office opened as Jessamine on April 23, 1887 with Mrs. Mattie E. Corman, the first postmaster. It closed in November 1904.

The best known and probably earliest of the many Hickman Creek mills was built about 1799 where the present Ky 169 crosses the creek,  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles east of Nicholasville. It was called Bell's Mill for Montgomery Bell who owned the site. By 1821, after several ownership changes, the mill (by then actually saw and grist mills) was called Union Mills. It was not until May 23, 1888 that a post office in the latter name was established by Alonzo W. Woodward to serve that vicinity. It closed in December 1903.

Another shortlived post office, but at site unknown, was Burdine. It was probably named for its only postmaster, George W. Burdine, who operated it from July 19, 1888 to the following January.

On February 9, 1889 LaFayette English established a post office to serve his country store, half a mile east of Hickman Creek (and six miles se of Nicholasville. He named it for the nearby Mt. Lebanon Methodist Church. After several local site changes it closed in November 1903.

In 1889 one of the stations established for the Riney-B (later L&N) Railroad then being extended east of Nicholasville, was called Logana. Some  $6\frac{1}{2}$  miles east of Nicholasville, it was probably named for the family of area landowner James B. Logan. John C. Walter, the local grocer and railroad agent, was Logana's first postmaster, serving from Oct. 21, 1889 through

April 1915. The office closed two years later. The station soon followed, and in 1933 the tracks were removed, effectively ending what had once been a flourishing village.

Nealton, another L&N post office, was located where US 68 crossed the/ tracks, half a mile north of the former's junction with the present Ky 169 and almost five miles northwest of Nicholasville. It was established on May 21, 1892 by Jesse C. Neal and named for his family, descendants of pioneer George Neal, who owned much land at the head of Jessamine Creek, half a mile east. The office closed in July 1912.

From February 23, 1899 through November 1903 Milford Fain operated the Pollard post office, nearly two miles south of Mt. Lebanon and just north of what has been called the Kissing Ridge. The Pollards were a Jessamine Co. family but their association with this place is not known.

The last post office in the county to be established served another L&N station called Perry from which it took its name. This operated from April 30, 1915 through February 1922 where the present Bethany Road crossed the tracks, 3¼ miles east of Nicholasville. Ira D. Sharp was its only postmaster. The station may have been named for the family of Robert S. Perry, the county's late nineteenth century court clerk.

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Of Jessamine County's twenty six post offices only three (Nicholasville, Wilmore, and Keene) are still in operation. They serve the only viable communities in the county. Nicholasville and Wilmore are incorporated cities.

Eleven offices were named for local or area persons or families. To another eleven were transferred the names of nearby features (though four of these were also named for local people). One (Nicholasville) honored a leading Kentucky politician of that time. Two were named for distant places, if we accept the local tradition that the Keene namers were from that town in

New Hampshire and can assume that Pekin derived from the city in China. The two names applied successively to one post office (Windom and Brannon) remain unexplained. Only one post office (Burdine) has not been located.

The names of six post offices were not those originally intended for them. Four are known to have served places with other names. Six names were changed in the course of the post offices' existence.

[Note: All distances are road miles from the Nicholasville post office.]

#### FOOTNOTES

1. I and others before me have erred in stating that Nicholas was born in 1743. His father, Robert Carter Nicholas, a prominent Virginia politician, was born in 1728 and married George's mother, Anne, in 1751. That George was a 1772 graduate of the College of William and Mary and a high ranking officer in the Continental Army when only in his mid twenties undoubtedly contributed to the belief that he was born earlier than he actually was.
2. An earlier river crossing here was called Todd's Ferry.
3. Brooklyn, the community, which was never known as Brooklyn Bridge, was a thriving nineteenth century village of nearly 500 inhabitants, with mills, a distillery, coal yard, warehouses, shops, and other industries. It never had its own post office. Nor did it recover from a devastating late nineteenth century fire and flood.
4. See Robert M. Rennick, Kentucky Place Names, Lexington: University Press of Kentucky, 1984, P. 175

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I know where all these places are. I do not know the distance say, from Nicholasville, of allof them. Have always taken forgranted.

- ✓ 1. Nicholasville. Named for Col. George Nicholas.
- ✶ 2. Camp Nelson. Named for Gen. \_\_\_\_\_ Nelson. ( Civil War. Union Army)  
Now the Camp Nelson National Cemetry. South on U.S. #27, near the Ky. river.
- ✓ 3. Keene. Write the Postmaster, J. Robert Wilson, Jr., Keene, 40339  
He is a native of Keene and knows more about Keene then anyone. He will be glad to help.
- ✓ 4. Sulphur Well. Named for a large well of black sulpher water. About three miles East from Nicholasville. Hi'wy. # 39 .
- ✶ 5. High Bridge. South of Wilmore on Hwy. # 29 at the Ky. river.  
Named for the Rail Road Bridge. No longer a Post Office.
- ✶ 6. Wilmore. Named for a man by the name of \_\_\_\_\_ Wilmore.  
This may be the youngest place. I believe it was 1886.
- ✓ 7. PINK. Named for the Postmaster, J. Pink Overstreet. About eight miles South East. At Little Hickman.
- ✓ 8. Vineyard. For a large Vineyard. All kinds of grapes. Work negro workers. Before the Civil War it was slave labor.
- ✓ 9. Hall. Do not know where the name came from. It is located across U.S.# 27 at the Camp Nelson National Cemetry. Used during the Civil War for run-a-way negros & others. Also, a negro school there. Now there is a large negro cemetery where they still bury. The negro lady who gave me my first bath & put my first clothes on me, is buried there. She was 94.

#### RESERVES

- ✓ 10. Hanley. Named for John Hays Hanley.
- ✓ 11. Little Hickman. for the Little Hickman Creek.
- ✓ 12. Union Mills. East of Nicholasville on the Big Hickman Creek.  
Hwy. # 169 Do not know about the name.
- ✶ 13. Mt. Lebanon.
- ✶ 14. Logana.
- ✓ 15. Pollard. See Robert "Bob" Fain, at the Lexington Leader. He is a native of there. His father ran a General Country Store there for years. He can tell you all about it. Also, he may be able to tell you about Mt. Lebanon & Logana.
- ✓ 16. Bethel. South on the U.S.# 27 about two mils. At the forks of U.S.#27 and the Wilmore Pike.
- ✶ 17. Provance. Just over the Fayette and Jessamine Countyline in Jessamine.

The Provance Church was organized in 1817. May not have as a Christain Church at first. As many were not.

The large log house that stands on the same side of the Church was built around 1818 or maybe completed in 1819.

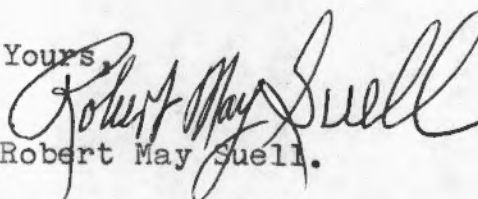
✓ PLAQUEMINE. The name came from a Indian Tribe by the name of PIAKEMINE. Some eight miles South East of Nicholasville at Little Hickman, on the Little Hickman Pike. It runs from Hwy. # 39 to the Sugar Creek Road. ( Called "Pluck-ah-mine" )

Chrisman Mills. East from Nicholasville on the Big Hickman Creek. Henry Chrisman came to now Jessamine County from Va. and built a ole water mill. Also, a large limestone rock house on top of the creek cliff overlooking the mill. The house was built by Mr. Metcalfe who later became Gov. of Kentucky.

Henry Chrisman moved his dead with him. He re-buried them on a flat near the creek cliff. He was buried there too. Many years later his family moved all and re-burird them in the Maple Grove Cemetery, Nicholasville

Please forgive for writing you a news paper.

Yours,

  
Robert May Suell.

121 Bell Court

Nich. Ky 40356.

✓ (6) WPA

JESSAMINE COUNTY

JESSAMINE COUNTY, established 1798 out of Fayette county, named derived from Jessamine creek, which was named in honor of the daughter of a Scotch settler. (b) Original boundaries as follows: "-----all that part of the county of Fayette-----beginning on the Woodford line where it strikes the Ky. river, near Todds ferry; thence along the said line  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile N. of John Allins military survey; thence to the 7 mile tree on Curd's road; thence to the 8 mile tree on Tate's creek road; thence along said last mentioned road to the Ky. river; thence down the Ky. river to the beginning, shall be-----Jessamine county." (c)



Jessamine County communities

- #27 ← \*1. Nicholasville (co. seat) ☉  
\*2. Camp Nelson (dpo) had been Jessamine ☉ (com)  
\*3. Keene (comm. & p.o.) ☉  
\*4. Boon's Knob (dpo)  
\*5. Mount Freedom (dpo)  
\*6. Marble Creek (dpo) → Fayette co.  
\*7. Pott's Mills (dpo)  
8. Pekin (dpo) (ngbr)  
\*9. Carvers Ferry (dpo)  
\*10. Sulphur Well (dpo) (com.) ☉  
\*11. Cogar's Landing (dpo) → Brooklyn Bridge  
\*12. Hanly (dpo) (com) ☉  
\*13. Little Hickman (dpo) (com) X  
\*14. Spears (dpo) (com)  
\*15. High Bridge (dpo) had been North Tower (com) ☉  
\*16. Wilmore (comm. & p.o.) ☉  
\*17. Ambrose (dpo) (com)  
\*18. Marrs (dpo)  
19. Brannon (dpo) had been Windom (com.)  
\*20. Jessamine (dpo) (not #2, above)  
\*21. Pink (dpo) (com) ☉ → Little Hickman (com)  
\*22. Union Mills (dpo) (com) X  
23. Burdine (dpo)  
\*24. Mt. Lebanon (dpo) (com) X  
25. Logana (dpo) (com) X  
\*26. Nealton (dpo) (com)  
\*27. Rudicill (dpo) ← Mt. Freedom  
\*28. Pollard (dpo) (com) X  
\*29. Perry (dpo)  
\*30. Bethel (com) X  
— 31. Watt Store Ngbr.  
32. Almahurst (com)  
— 33. Catnip Hill Ngbr.  
— 34. Lyne Ngbr.  
35. Providence (com.) X  
— 36. South Elkhorn Ngbr.  
\*37. Dixon Town (com)  
— 38. Cobbs Service Station Ngbr.  
— 39. Roberts School Ngbr.  
— 40. Bethany Ngbr.  
— 41. Crisman Mill Ngbr.  
— 42. Danville Park Ngbr.  
— 43. Sulphur Well Park Ngbr.  
\*44. Vineyard (com.) ☉  
— 45. Lexington Park Ngbr.  
— 46. Red Oak Ngbr.  
— 47. Keene Park Ngbr.  
— 48. Wilmore Park Ngbr.  
— 49. Glass Mill Ngbr.  
— 50. Oakdale Ngbr.  
— 51. Harrodsburg Rd. Ngbr.  
— 52. Troy Ngbr.  
— 53. Paint Lick Ngbr.  
— 54. Oak Hill Ngbr.  
— 55. Kissing Ridge Ngbr.  
56. Hickman (com)  
57. Hall (com) X ← Ariel

- 58. Elm Fork Ngbr.
- \* 59. Black Bridge (com)
- 60. Sweet Home Ngbr.
- 61. Gardner (rr sta)
- 62. Handys Bend Ngbr.
- 63. Poor Town Ngbr.
- 64.

$\text{Ngbr} = 25$   
 $\text{rr} = 1$  } excluded

$N_T = 36$

no! Jessamine Creek (Jessamine Co.) A Scotchman named, Douglas furnished the name for both County and Creek. Douglas settled here when Indians still infested the country. He had a daughter named Jessamine and the Creek was named for her. One day she was sitting on a large rock near the head of the creek, when an Indian stealthily crept up and buried his tomahawk in her brain.

Perrin's History of Ky.  
Page 603 - Words - 60

Ref.  
Library Clippings

Jessamine Creek - named for the abundance of Jessamine flowers growing on the creek banks.

Pub. Lib.  
Hist. of Ky. by Perrin & Battle 1888  
p. 603

Bird C. Greer  
Dec. 26, 1940  
45 words

Jessamine County

CAMP NELSON, a noted place during the Civil War, is now a village situated on the Kentucky River, at the mouth of Hickman's Creek, and was named in honor of Gen. William Nelson. It was established in 1863.

Jessamine County

✓ CAMP NELSON In 1863, Camp Nelson so called in compliment to the late Maj. Gen. Wm. Nelson - was established on the Ky. river and occupied until the close of the war. This was the principal camp in the state for the enlistment of colored troops, and the refuge of colored refugees from slavery. On these lands is now established a U. S. military cemetery, finely and substantially improved, and in which are interred thousands of Federal soldiers

Douglas Spring was a celebrated spring on James Douglas' lands on

Sinking Creek in Jessamine County.

W. R. Jillson, 1934 -  
p. 113 ~~25 words~~

JESSAMINE COUNTY, KY., POST OFFICES

or F' 1801

- ✓ 1. NICHOLASVILLE C.H.- 11/17/1806, Benj. Nesterland to 1822  
Archibald Young (1822-1826)  
9/25/1829, James Lusk; 10/26/1838, David P. Watson....  
2/6/1878, Mrs. Mary H. Letcher; Disc. 6/30/1880; Re-est.  
7/1/1880, Mary H. Letcher....
- ✓ 2. KEENE- 7/14/1830, Ephraim Carter; ← North Liberty (1830-30)  
9/1/1832, Whitfield H. George; 11/14/1834, Helen L. Hiter;  
....
- ✓ 3. BOON'S KNOB- 12/2/1843, Philip Keatly; 7/28/1848, R.B. Yontis;  
Disc. 9/14/1849;
- ✓ 4. MOUNT FREEDOM- 6/12/1844, David P. Sutton; Disc. 6/3/1846;  
Re-est. 7/21/1846, David P. Sutton; 6/30/1851, John J.  
Evans; .... 3/30/1863, George W. Durham; Disc. 5/14/1863;  
Re-est. 8/30/1867, John Dickerson; 1/3/1868, H.C. Hamilton;  
Disc. 1/28/1870; Re-est. 6/30/1892, John G. Laughlin,  
rescinded, 5/9/1894; → 27. (Pudisill)
- fay. co. 5. MARBLE CREEK- 2/21/1848, John M. Taul; Disc. 11/30/1848;  
Re-est. 2/22/1849, John M. Taul; 6/19/1849, Benjamin M.  
Taul; 10/29/1853, John M. Taul; Disc. 1/4/1859;
- ✓ 6. POTT'S MILLS- 4/28/1848, Wm. N. Potts; 10/24/1854, Aaron  
Blakeman; 1/29/1856, James H. Blakeman; 10/16/1857,  
Abraham Grant; 12/14/1858, Wm. N. Potts; Disc. 6/7/62;
- ✓ 7. PEKIN- 11/30/1848, David P. Watson; 2/2/1852, Woodson  
Dickerson... 9/8/1857, David J. Noonan; Disc. 3/27/  
1858; Re-est. 4/9/1858, David J. Noonan; 12/2/1861,  
Nimrod Nooey(sic-?); Disc. 12/26/1861; Re-est. 5/20/  
1862, Brown Young; Disc. 2/6/1865; Re-est. 4/22/1865,  
Brown Young; Disc. 12/29/1876;
- ✓ 8. CARVERS FERRY- 12/19/1851, Valentine Duncan; Disc. 4/13/1854;
- ✓ 9. SULPHUR WELL- 4/7/1852, Wm. W. Newland; 11/18/1852, Allen  
Hackett.... 1/21/1862, George Brother; (in Shelby Co.,  
3/25/1865) (from Shelby Co. but d.k. when) 3/25/65, John  
March; 2/7/1866, Garrett Davis.... 1/18/1869, John L.  
Alverson; Disc. 11/15/1869;

1868 Henry H. Masters



JESSAMINE COUNTY, KY., POST OFFICES (2)

- ✓ 10. JESSAMINE- 10/17/1853, Wm. J. King; (in Garrard Co. 7/29/1861, Zechariah C. Merritt); then it may have returned to Jess. Co. as Camp Nelson, 8/21/1863, Zechariah C. Merritt; 3/17/1864, Robert H. King, appointment rescinded 4/11/1864; 4/11/1864, Zechariah C. Merritt; (then back into Garrard Co. 10/5/1865, James C. Cox); Disc. either 3/27/1866 or 10/23/1866; Re-est. 11/20/1866 with John D. Mays in Jessamine Co.; 11/8/1869, John W. Glass; 9/27/1870, Thomas Hunter; Disc. 3/28/1871; Re-est. 6/13/1871, Robert Bisgle (sic-?); .... 11/26/1873, James W. Vaughn; Disc. 4/30/1874; Re-est. 11/13/1877, John W. Glass; 1/20/1879, Henry Ruhlman.... 8/16/1917, Charlotte Knoble; Disc. 5/15/1920 (mail to Bryantsville, Garrard Co.);
- ✓ 11. COGAR'S LANDING- 5/3/1854, Thomas S. Cogar; Disc. 6/25/61;
- ✓ 12. HANLY- 3/9/1858, Wm. M. Phillips; 1/21/1863, John G. Masters.... 12/13/1915, Mary E. Murphy; Disc. 11/15/1917 (mail to Nicholasville);
- ✓ 13. LITTLE HICKMAN- 2/15/1867, George Blakeman; 5/24/1867, Wm. H. Hamilton.... 7/30/1877, John W. Overstreet; Disc. 6/30/1917 (mail to Nicholasville);
- ✓ 14. SPEARS- 8/30/1867, John Messick; 1/18/1870, Louis M. Gray; 3/28/1871, George W. Spears; (In Fayette Co. on or about 4/30/1874 with Riley F. Spears; then back into Jessamine Co. but d.k. when, with Riley F. Spears); 1/23/1909, John R. Wilson.... 4/10/1917, Samuel E. Patton; Disc. 3/15/1918 (mail to Lexington);
- ✓ 15. NORTH TOWER- 6/27/1876, James M. Dorman; 10/4/1878, Willis Alcorn.... 7/9/1885, James M. Dorman; name changed to High Bridge, 7/21/1888, James M. Dorman; 11/19/1889, Charles E. Oliver....
- Disc 1982
- ✓ 16. WILMORE- 9/17/1877, Jerome A. Sparks; 5/25/1885, James S. Hawkins....

Wm. Windom  
d. miss. was US Treas.  
Sec for Garfield, 1881.

JESSAMINE CO., KY. POST OFFICES (3)

- ✓ 17. AMBROSE- 6/15/1881, Ambrose Cobb; 1/23/1883, G.M. Hendren;  
4/30/1883, Ambrose Cobb; 8/10/1883, Thomas Hendren....  
9/16/1899, Frank F. Miller; Disc. 2/6/1904, effective  
2/29/1904 (papers to Nicholasville);
- ✓ 18. MARRS- 6/30/1881, John Marrs; disc. 7/29/1881;
- ✓ 19. WINDOM- 7/11/1881, Massie Bryan; 3/29/1886, Sandford C.  
Lyne; 3/26/1890, Massie Bryan; name changed to Brannon,  
10/1/1890, Massie Bryan; 6/30/1892, Sandford C. Lyne....  
5/10/1899, Charles M. Smith; Disc. 7/15/1913 (mail to  
Nicholasville);
- ✓ 20. JESSAMINE- 4/23/1887, Mrs. Mattie E. Corman; 1/2/1890,  
James Cook; 1/31/1890, William T. Woodward.... 4/17/  
1900, Susie Hutchison; Disc. 10/29/1904, effective  
11/15/1904 (mail to Wilmore);
- ✓ 21. PINK- 5/14/1887, Mary H. Letcher; 5/25/1887, Houston  
Scott; 4/28/1888, John P. Overstreet.... 5/29/1897,  
George L. Teater; Disc. 2/6/1904, effective 2/29/1904  
(papers to Nicholasville); J. T. Wilson was P.M., c. 1895
- ✓ 22. UNION MILLS- 5/23/1888, Alonzo W. Woodward; 2/17/1890,  
Robert Ogdon; Disc. 12/1/1903, effective 12/14/1903  
(papers to Nicholasville);
- ✓ 23. BURDINE- 7/19/1888, George W. Burdine; Disc. 1/7/1889,  
(no papers sent);
- ✓ 24. MT. LEBANON- 2/9/1889, LaFayette English; 6/14/1889,  
John W. Willis..... 7/1/1897, William I. Sanders;  
Disc. 7/11/1901 (papers to Pollard); Re-est. 3/4/1902,  
Lewis A. Price; 7/28/1902, Margaret Ingram; 1/15/1903,  
Lindsey B. Reynolds; Disc. 11/24/1903, effective 11/30/  
1903 (papers to Nicholasville);
- ✓ 25. LOGANA- 10/21/1889, John C. Walter; 5/3/1915, Lorena M.  
Winn; 11/11/1915, Lewis Hill; Disc. 9/15/1917 (mail to  
Nicholasville);



JESSAMINE COUNTY, KY. POST OFFICES (4)

- ✓ 26. NEALTON- 5/21/1892, Jesse C. Neal; 4/27/1894, Wm. T. Crutcher.... 3/26/1910, James P. Minor; 7/31/1911, Albert McC. Holmes; Disc. 7/15/1912 (mail to Nicholasville);
- ✓ 27. RUDICILL- ~~(2/23/1899, Milford Fain; Disc. 11/24/1903)~~  
4/26/1898, Jeremiah Rudicill; Disc. 11/3/1898 (papers to Wilmore);
- ✓ 28. POLLARD- 2/23/1899, Milford Fain; Disc. 11/24/1903, effective 11/30/1903 (papers to Nicholasville);
- ✓ 29. PERRY- 4/30/1915, Ira D. Sharp; Disc. effective 2/28/1922 (mail to Nicholasville);